23391

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor Siegfried MANTL

Patent App. 10/554,074

Filed 20 October 2005 Conf. No. 2822

For METHOD FOR PRODUCING A TENSIONED LAYER ON A

SUBSTRATE, ...

Art Unit 2826 Examiner Yeung Lopez, F

Hon. Commissioner of Patents

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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FIFTH AMENDMENT

This is in response to the Office Action mailed 22 May 2008.

Applicant herewith restricts this with traverse as follows to the following method/process claims:

Group A claim 14

Group B claim 22

Group C claims 27 and 28

Group D claim 26

Group E claim 43.

Thus only claims 6, 23, 29, 30 31, 33, 34, 38 and 44 are withdrawn.

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(Claims 7--9, 40, 41, 46, 47, 49, and 80-89 have already been canceled.)

Product-by-process claims 91--97 will be dealt with after action on the underlying method claims. It is noted that 37 CFR 1.475(b)(1) specifically exempts product-by-process claims from restriction/election in a PCT case.

It is respectfully noted that the above-identified Rule 475 for PCT (371) cases like this one is much more liberal than the rules regarding standard US cases. Rule 475 explicitly states that certain classes of invention have to be left together in a US national-phase (371) application, even though admittedly if this were a standard US filing restriction or election would be proper.

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